

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTONA NEW GEOGRAPHIC RACE OF *PEROMYSCUS*
LEUCOPUS FROM NOVA SCOTIA.BY RONALD W. SMITH,
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Critical comparison of white-footed mice, collected by the writer in Kings County, Nova Scotia, indicates the existence of a new geographic race. This new race may be known as:

Peromyscus leucopus caudatus, subsp. nov.

Type.—Male, adult, skin and skull; no. 84535, Mus. Vert. Zool.; Wolfville, Kings County, Nova Scotia; collected by Ronald W. Smith, November 11, 1937; original no. 1502.

Distribution.—Western Nova Scotia.

Diagnosis.—A race of *Peromyscus leucopus* characterized by long tail, light color, slender rostrum, short maxillary tooth row, anteriorly slender zygomatic arch, and short skull.

Comparison.—Compared with *Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis*, from eastern Pennsylvania, New York, eastern Massachusetts, and southern Ontario, *caudatus* shows the following differences: Brain-case smaller; skull shorter; rostrum narrower and more tapering anteriorly; maxillary tooth row shorter; zygoma slenderer anteriorly; external auditory meatus larger; pelage paler dorsally, and white, rather than grayish, ventrally; dorsal surface of tail lighter brown; tail longer.

Measurements.—Average and extreme measurements, in millimeters, of ten adult males and females, from Wolfville, Kings County, are as follows: Total length, 179.5 (167-198); tail vertebrae, 93.0 (83.5-105.0); hind foot, 21.3 (21-22); greatest length of skull, 25.5 (24.4-27.3); greatest width of brain-case, 11.7 (11.2-12.0); interorbital constriction, 4.0 (3.9-4.2); nasals, 9.9 (9.1-10.9); anterior width of rostrum, 3.2 (3.0-3.4); posterior width of rostrum, 4.7 (4.3-5.0); shelf of bony palate, 4.1 (3.9-4.6); palatine slits, 5.1 (4.7-5.4); postpalatal length, 9.3 (8.8-10.3); maxillary tooth row, 3.4 (3.3-3.6).

Remarks.—In 1909, Osgood (N. Am. Fauna, no. 28, p. 119) commented on the longer tails of six specimens from Digby and Hants counties, Nova Scotia, but referred them to *Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis* at that

time. These specimens are probably assignable to the newly named race, *caudatus*.

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Specimens examined.—Total number, 29, all from Kings County, Nova Scotia, as follows: Wolfville, 19; 1½ miles east of Wolfville, 9; 2½ miles east of Wolfville, 1. Nineteen of these specimens are in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and ten are in the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology.